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Remarks:

Regarding the instant "election of species" requirement:

The applicant strongly traverses the Examiner's requirement as to an election of species, alleging that the subject matter of the current claims lacks "unity of invention" under PCT Rule 13.1, which objection was not previously raised. Such appears to be irregular in that the Examiner had previously not raised such a requirement and had issued a prior *Office Action* on 29.Dec.2006. The issuance of the prior *Office Action* on the merits of the case suggests that previously the "unity of invention" was tacitly acknowledged by the Examiner and a proper search of the prior art was made commensurate with the scope of the applicant's claimed invention. Thus, it appears quite irregular that an objection under "unity of invention" under PCT Rule 13.1 be raised now, and the applicant thus TRAVERSES the current "election of species" requirement. The applicant requests reconsideration thereof and withdrawal of the new requirement.

In order to ensue that this paper is complete, the applicant provisionally elects as the "species" for the claimed chelating agent, -- ethanoldiglycines -- as is believed to be exemplified by the applicant's Examples of Table 1 as the commercially available material "Dissolvine EDG" which demonstrates this class of materials.

With reference now to the claims, in light of the foregoing provisional election of species, claims 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 12 are believed to correspond to the subject matter of the provisional election.

Should the Examiner in charge of this application believe that telephonic communication with the undersigned would meaningfully advance the prosecution of this application, they are invited to call the undersigned at their earliest convenience.

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CONDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION FOR FEES

Should any further fee be required by the Commissioner in order to permit the timely entry of this paper, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any such fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully Submitted;

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07 July 2007

Date:

Certification of Telefax Transmission:

I hereby certify that this paper is being telefax transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office to telefax number: 571 273-8300 on the date shown below:

Andrew N. Parfomak

07 July 2007

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